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ABSTRACT

Approximately 40 arts and crafts activity ideas are compiled for use by teachers of the primary and elementary grades. The materials used in these activities are inexpensive and easily found. The activities are short and not difficult for students at any grade level. Art ideas are included for Halloween, Easter, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving, and St. Patrick's Day. Other activities include making calico cottages, foam friends, soft sculpture, silly seashells, family trees, bookmarks, banners, pillows, mobiles, paperweights, and puppets. Materials used for the various activities include fabric, crayons, paints, boxes, beads, nuts, coat hangers, popsicle sticks, buttons, yarn, and tissue paper. (EM)

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[Arts and Crafts Ideas Compiled from Nine Issues of Instructor Magazine, August 1982 through May 1983.]

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ARTS & CRAFTS FOR EVERYONE

Art is an essential school experience—for every child. It enhances visual perception and creative expression. It promotes aesthetic judgment and cultural pride. It can even be an important communication link between child and teacher, parent, or peer.

Arts-and-crafts editor Diane Crane designed this art notebook with *everyone* in mind. Each clip-and-file project, she says, is simple enough for *any* child to do alone—and it's intriguing enough to inspire parents, high school students, or other volunteers to join in. "You might even hold a parent-pupil workshop with these projects," Diane adds. "That's when the fun really begins!"

Instructor; v92 n1, August 1982

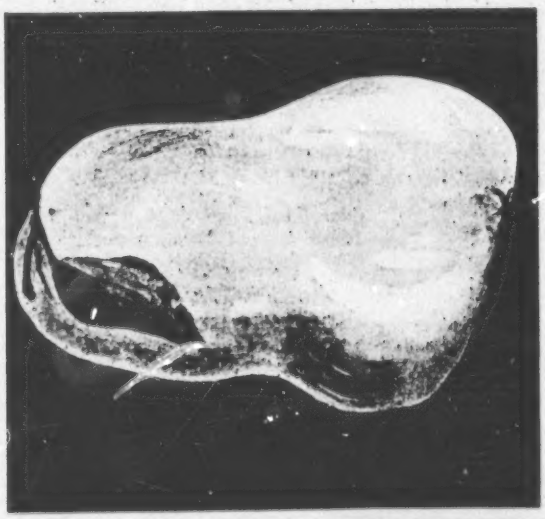
Mystery molds

Imagination is the key to these plaster objects that are formed from discarded packaging.

Materials You will need: plaster of paris; a clean milk carton or coffee can for mixing plaster; a large spoon; molds (any reasonably sturdy, clear plastic packaging used to hold toys, hardware items, and so on, with the cardboard backing removed from the plastic bubble); paper clips; metal cake rack; paint and paint sealer; felt; glue.

Procedure Check the molds for cracks, and tape any tiny ones on the outside. Molds that won't stay level can be steadied by resting the edges over wide-mouthed cans or bowls. Mix the plaster of paris with water until it is the consistency of whipping cream. Pour into molds. If any objects are to hang, insert bent paper clips at the top as the plaster dries. Once the plaster hardens, gently flex the molds and remove the shapes, saving the molds to use again. Continue drying the objects on the rack until the bottoms are no longer damp and the objects are light in weight. Now use paint and imagination to turn the shapes into any objects they suggest, such as these samples. Brush or spray the front and back of each object with sealer. If any objects are to sit on tables, glue felt to the bottoms.

Variation Create a composite design by gluing several molded shapes together. Use contact cement if your room has *excellent* ventilation.



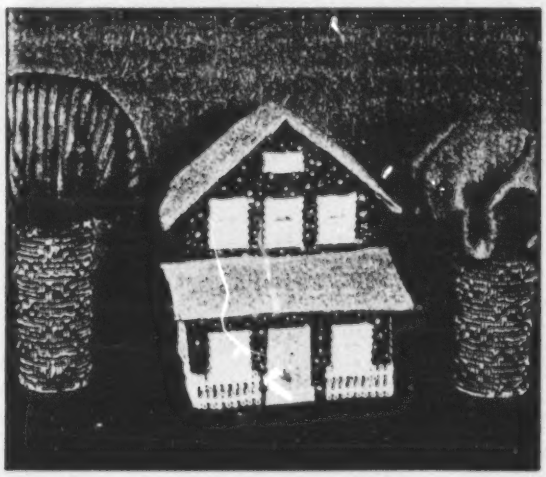
Calico cottages

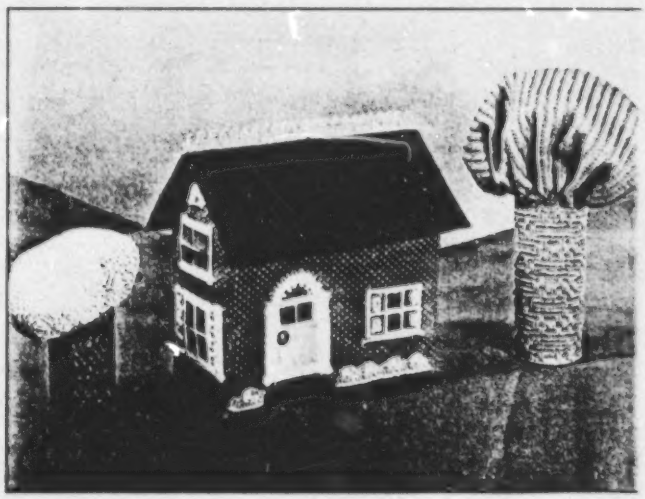
You may discover some future architects in your midst when you give everyone a chance to design a house from empty boxes.

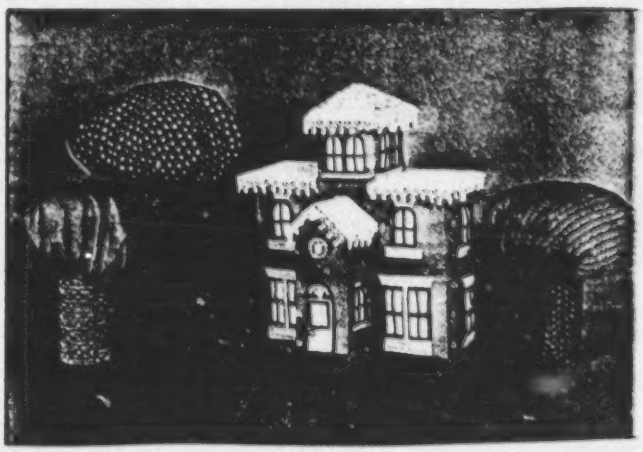
Materials You will need: a variety of large and small cardboard boxes such as those crackers, dry cereal, pudding, or toothpaste come in; scrap cardboard and tubes; fabric; felt; wallpaper paste; 1½"-2" paint brush; padding material such as cotton batting; assorted trim; clear-drying white glue.

Procedure The larger boxes make the body of the house while the smaller ones can serve as porches, chimneys, flower boxes, and so on. Cut the roof from scrap cardboard and fold it in the center. Tape cardboard triangles to the top of the box to support the roof, but do not attach the roof yet. Cut fabric to overlap the roof by ½". Wrap the material around the house, overlapping ¼" in the back and ½" at the top and bottom, then cut. Brush the roof and the house with paste. If padding is desired (to give a soft-sculpture look), place a small amount in the center of the outside walls and on top of the roof. Smooth the fabric in place, and use white glue to seal the overlapping edges. Dry thoroughly. Cover the small boxes in the same manner. Glue them to the house, holding the boxes in place with straight pins while the glue dries. Use trim to design windows, doors, and other details. Fill the house with crumpled newspaper for support, then glue on the roof. Cover the bottom with felt.

Variation To add trees, stuff cardboard tubes with newspaper for support, then glue on fabric for the trunk. Gather circles of material at the edges, stuff lightly, pull tightly around the tubes, and glue.







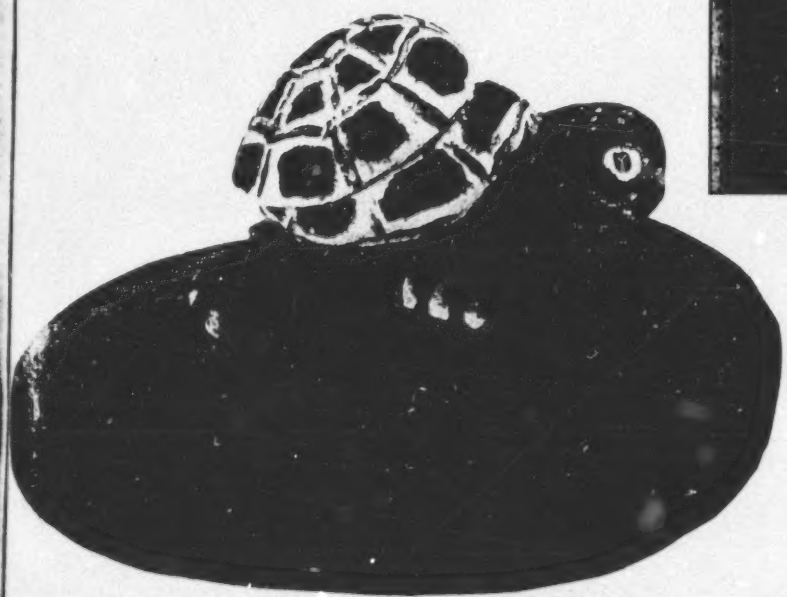
Foam friends

Packing pieces now appear in a variety of shapes, and that's a boon to the scrap crafter. Combine the plastic-foam shapes to make these adorable figurines of people and animals.

Materials You will need: plastic-foam packing pieces in as many shapes as possible (check stores that carry china and other fragile items for pieces in the shape of figure 8s, squiggles, Es, and small saucers); white pipe cleaners; a glue such as *Styroglue* recommended for use with plastic foam; acrylic paint; paper towels; paste.

Procedure Attach the pieces together with short lengths of pipe cleaner and glue to create an object. For easier painting, cover the completed figurines with a single layer of paper towel soaked in paste. Make sure the towel is dry before painting. (Acrylic paint works best on plastic foam, although tempera will stick if liquid soap is added to it.) Glue small props on last.

Variation Use fabric, fur, beads, and other textured materials to enrich the surfaces of the objects.



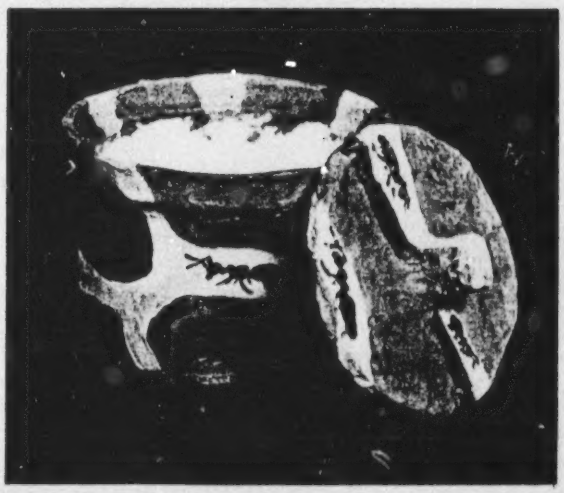
Bauble boxes

Here's a nifty project that produces a great gift to give for any occasion.

Materials You will need: protective covers from spray cans (those with large rims and no inner circle are best); plastic-foam meat trays; wide-tip marking pens; papier-mâché materials (wallpaper paste and newspaper); paper towels; metal rack; beads; paints and sealer.

Procedure The spray can cover is the base of the box. Place a cover on a tray so the open side is up, and trace around it. Cut around the outside line to make a round lid that will rest on the lip of the can cover without fitting too tightly. Apply two layers of papier-mâché to inside and outside of both can cover and lid. Dry thoroughly on the rack. Attach a bead to the lid with short pieces of paste-soaked paper towels to form a lip for easy removal of the lid. Dry finished box thoroughly. Paint and finish with the sealer.

Variation To make a tall box like the owl, use a second spray can cover inverted over the first.



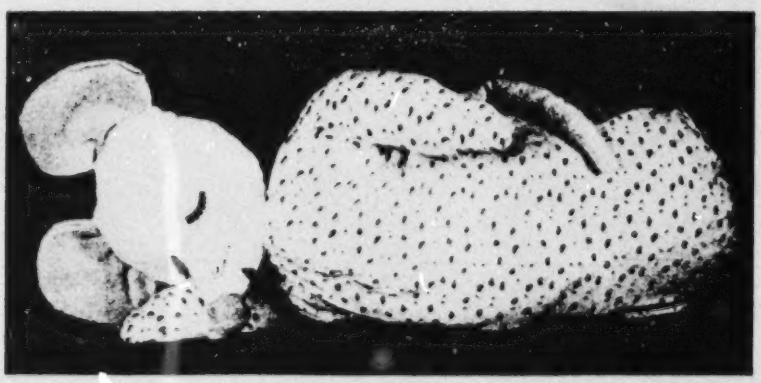
Soft stuff

Soft sculptures are in vogue now. Follow these directions and your pupils can be in on the art.

Materials You will need: old clothing; stuffing (newspaper, scrap foam padding, clean rags); 2½ pairs of panty hose; small amount of polyester stuffing; plastic-foam wig stand or small paper bag; heavy thread; needle; pins; and accessories.

Procedure Stuff the first pair of panty hose firmly to form the legs and lower body. (Use long rolls of newspaper for a standing figure, two shorter rolls in each leg for a seated one.) Cut the feet off the second pair and knot the ends. Stuff this pair to make the arms and upper body. Sew or pin the two sections together at the waists of the panty hose. Cut a small hole between the arms where the head will go. Pull a panty hose leg over the wig stand or a stuffed paper bag to make the head. Push small wads of polyester stuffing underneath the hose to form forehead, nose, cheeks, and chin. Pinch to shape. Push straight pins in the nose for nostril-like indentations. Pin paper eyes and mouth to the face. Wrap a rubber band around the base of the head, then insert it into the hole. Sew or pin to hold. (If clothing doesn't button, dress doll before attaching the head.) Stuff gloves or panty hose feet for hands and attach to arms with rubber bands. Complete the dressing with a hat or wig.

Variation Add simple sew-and-stuff pillow heads to other stuffed garments to make creatures such as the mouse below. Make sure kids don't *play* with these soft sculptures as many states have regulations for the type of stuffing used in toy items.



Silly Seashells

SOUVENIRS of summer beachcombing are the basic ingredients of this fun-to-do art project. Provide shallow containers (boxes or plastic trays) to hold and display the bounty. Background tagboard, small pieces of construction paper, and a thick clear-drying craft glue such as "Tacky" or "Sobo" also should be at hand. (Shells are heavy and will not stay in place unless a fast-drying glue of this sort is used, especially when one shell is being attached to another.) Young children find it easiest to make silly creatures and/or characters on flat backgrounds, using paper shapes for some of the parts. "Beach beasts" need only small cutout-paper features to give them expression. Take time for a tie-in with science, and teach the names and a few interesting facts about some of the more common shells. **JAMES W. PERRIN, JR.**

Paint Your Bus

THAT plain yellow school bus is a magic vehicle to your new-to-sc'ool pupils. Let them use those fresh temperas to paint it as boldly and freely as they would like it to be.

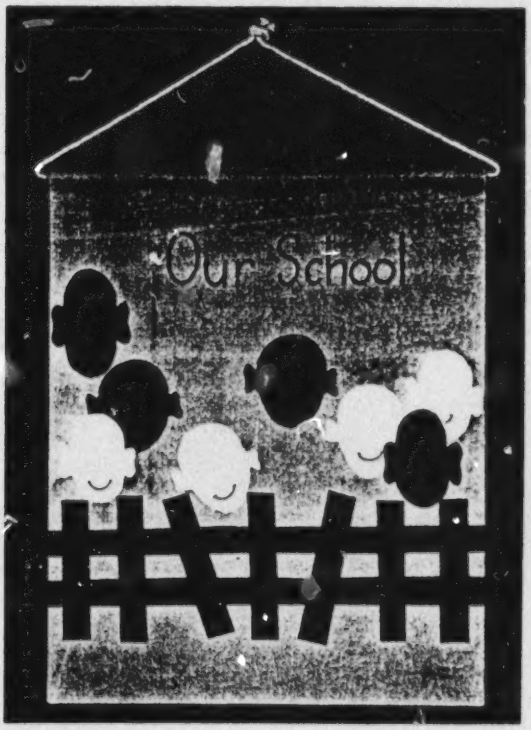
HELEN RANDALL EVENSEN

ARTFULLY EASY

Family tree

COVER a small cereal box and toothpaste box with construction paper. (Wrap them as you would presents, gluing down flaps and folds.) Glue boxes together to make a single 3-D tree. Cut leaves from construction paper and arrange on box. On the largest leaves, paste small pictures (cut from magazines or crayoned in) to represent members of family. Attach yarn hanger at top of tree.

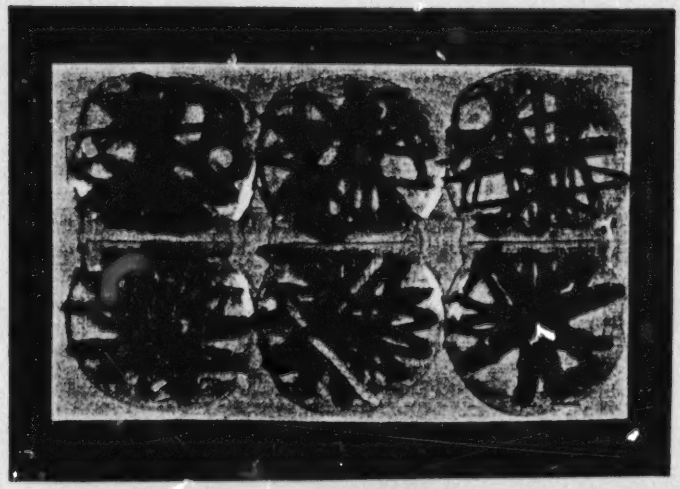
LOIS LATHROP



School banner

A BANNER year is ahead! Help develop children's school spirit by having them design banners representative of their school. Make banners from construction paper, gluing cutouts on for decoration. Now glue plastic straws at the top of the banner for support. Run yarn or cord through the straws and tie it, and your banner is ready to hang.

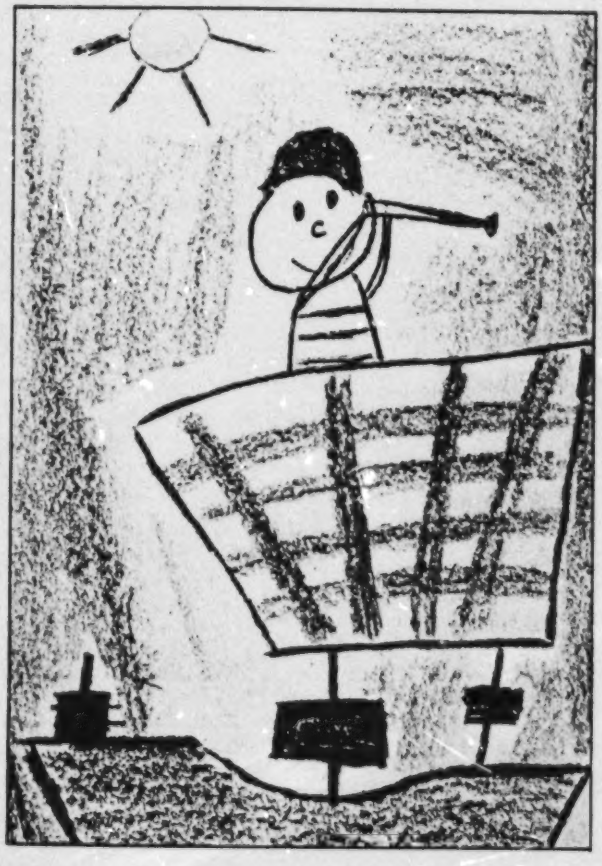
JACQUELINE KOURY



Woven webs

SIX-PACK carriers for cans of soda may be adapted in various ways for different craft projects. They can be cut apart and used individually or kept as a single unit. In the colorful example shown, holes are punched around rings, and scraps of yarn are criss-crossed and woven between the holes. A more limited color scheme would give a very different appearance to the finished panel. Watch for more "six-pack" ideas soon.

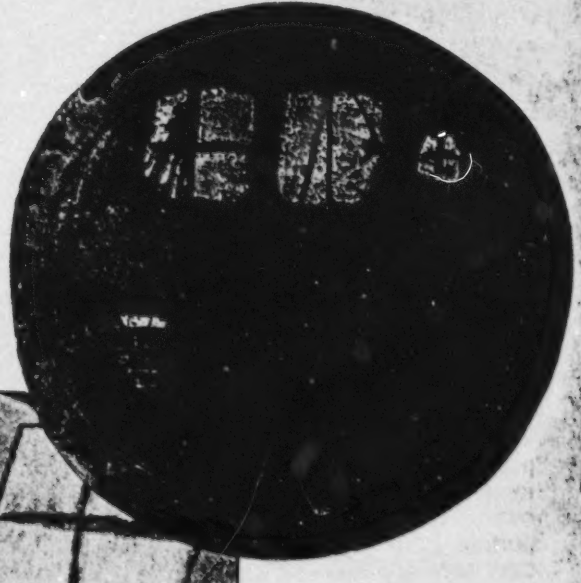
JACQUELINE ARMIN

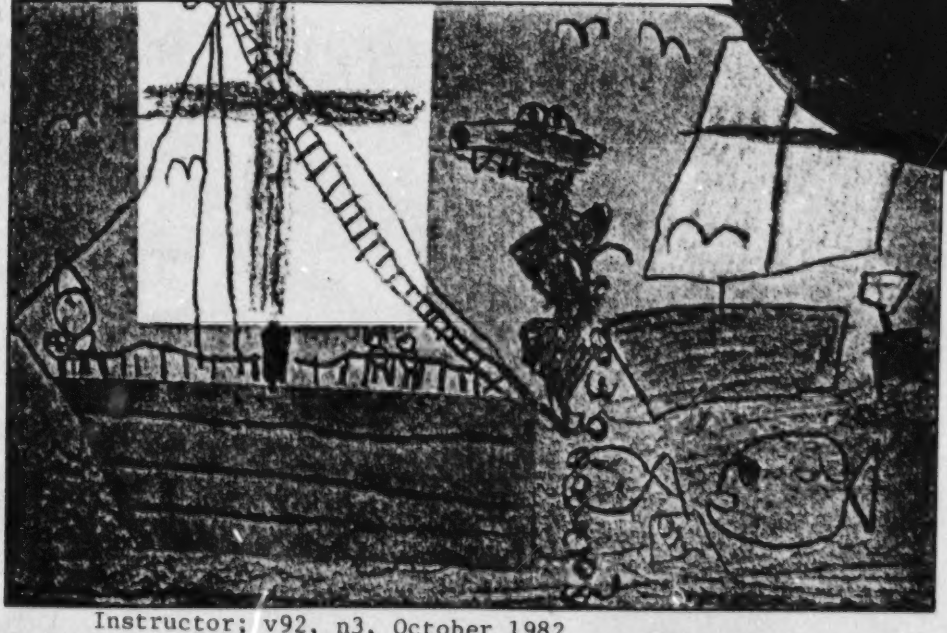


DISCOVER COLUMBUS

TALL ships and the farsighted sailors who steered them hold a powerful fascination for children. The crude simplicity of their equipment and the vastness of their discoveries make these early explorers every bit as interesting as today's astronauts. After reading about Columbus, have children paint their impressions of his voyage, ship, and crew. What would a crew member have looked like as he peered from the crow's nest, helping to guide the *Niña* or *Pinta?* For another project, cut paper for the sail and body of a ship. Add crayoned detail. Or pass out round pieces of paper and have your class do crayon-resist (blue paint over heavy crayon) paintings with porthole-like frames around their edges.

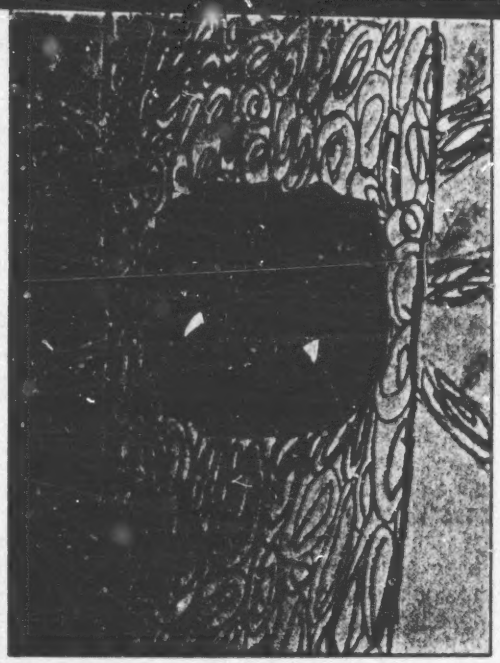
IREENE ROBBINS





Instructor; v92, n3, October 1982

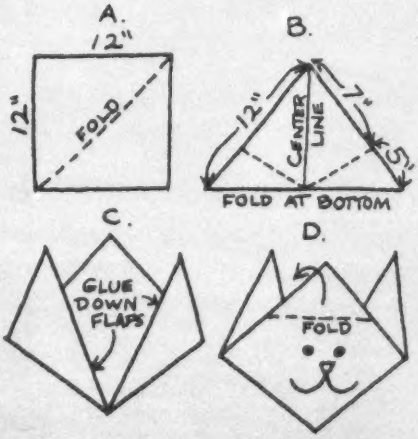
HALLOWEEN HOO-BOO!

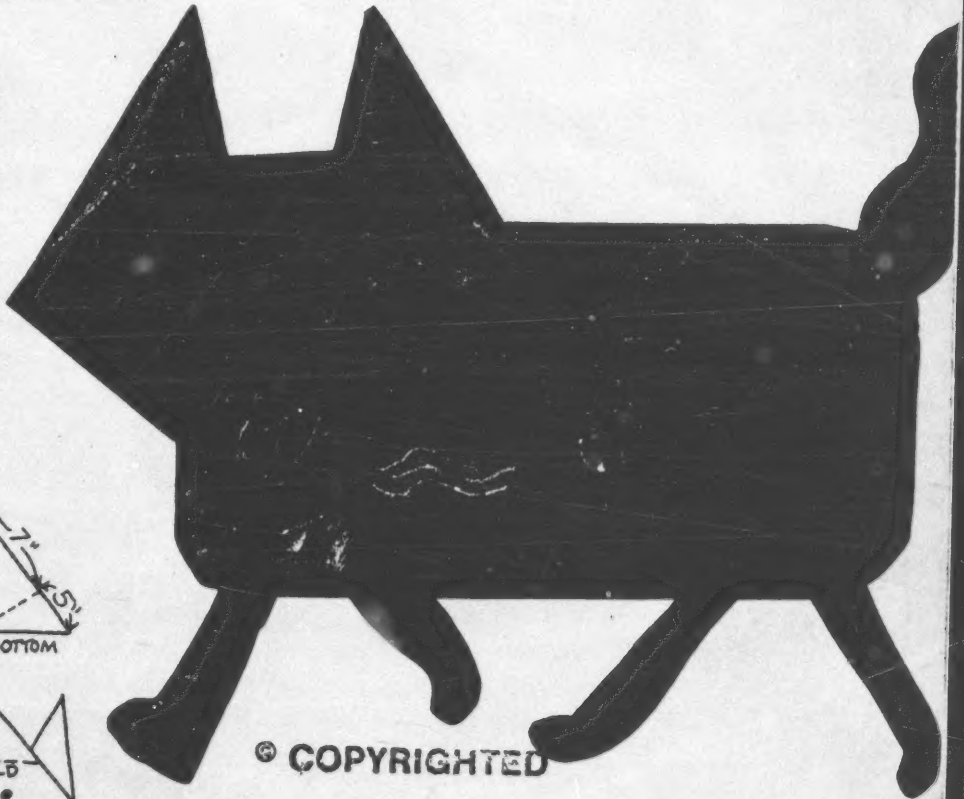


Owl in a tree
CONTRAST a paper owl with crayoned tree bark for a texture-rich version of the wise old owl in a tree. Simulate tree bark by using brown crayons on paper. Then tear the shape of an owl from paper and paste it on the tree bark. You can create different effects by pasting the owl on top of the tree bark or behind a cutout circle in it. Some owls may seem to peer from holes in tree trunks while others may rest against the rough background.
IREENE ROBBINS

Purr-fect cat
WOLVES may howl, bats may screech, but this little kitty just purrs on Halloween. Make a very small hole in the center of an oatmeal box lid. Cut a piece of string two feet long. Push it through the hole. Knot the string on the inside of the lid so it won't pull through the hole. After gluing the lid to the box, cover box and lid with orange paper. Cut a cat from black paper and glue it to the box (tail end toward string). Now hold the string between thumb and first fingernails. Draw nails quickly down the string to make kitty "purr."
JEFF HART

Folded felines
FOR the 3D heads on these unique cats, third graders folded 12" squares of paper as shown below. After they folded the heads they glued the flaps down so they would stay in position. Then they cut elongated bodies from black paper and attached the heads to these bodies. They drew on whiskers and other important features and added the just-for-fun clothing last of all. **IREENE ROBBINS**





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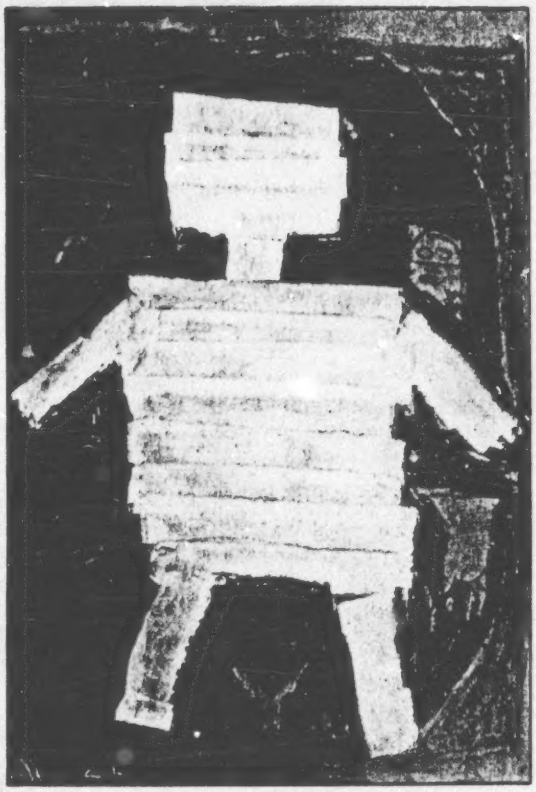
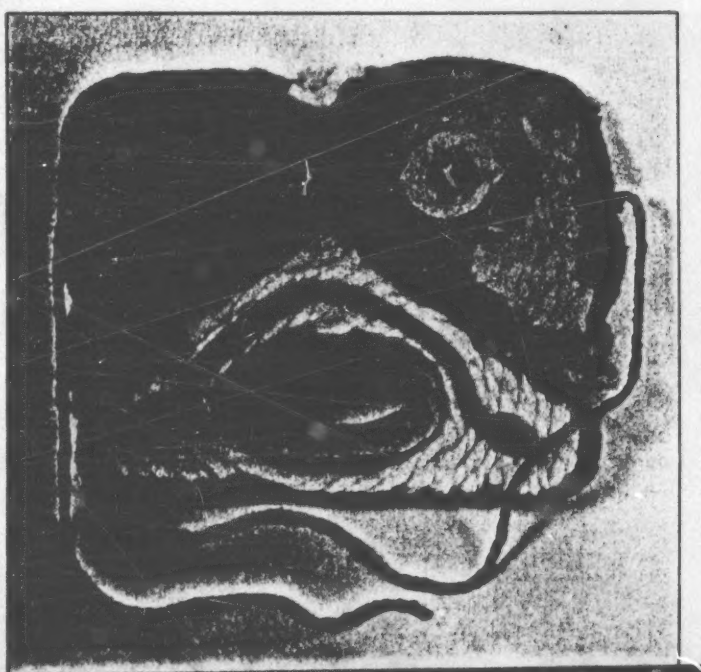


The mummy walks

THE MUMMIES of Egypt have intrigued scientists and scholars for years. After your students look at pictures of King Tut and other mummies, pass out narrow strips of torn white sheeting or gauze bandages. Kids can then paste down lengths of the cloth or gauze on paper and add cut-paper and crayon details to create their very own mummies for a special Halloween display.

IREENE ROBBINS



Fat cat

THIS cat obviously belongs to an over-indulgent witch! His rounded contours could only result from too many Halloween treats. In fact, he's super-size in more ways than one, since he measures three feet tall. Cut the cat from black paper, add accordion-folded forepaws and crayoned features, and give him an orange hat to sport.

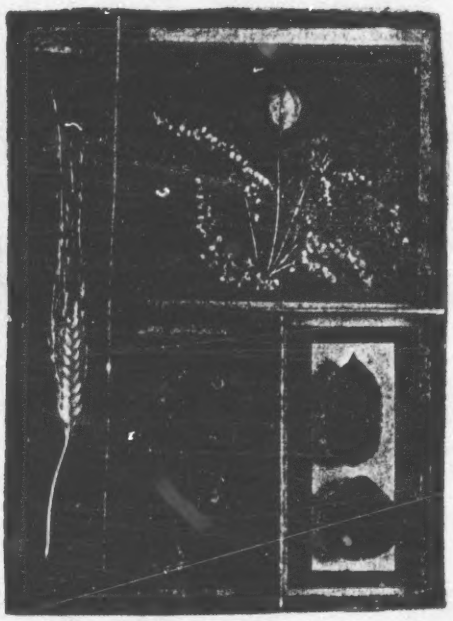
IREENE ROBBINS

TV terror

MAKE this mask from a TV-dinner tray and yarn. Poke ample eyeholes and smaller ventilating holes in the tray. Poke from inside to outside so any roughness will not be toward your face. Now conceal the contours of the tray by covering it with bulky yarn. (Don't cover the holes.) Glue yarn on in concentric patterns suggested by the shapes of the tray sections. Attach yarn ties at sides of masks.

JAMES W. PERRIN, JR.

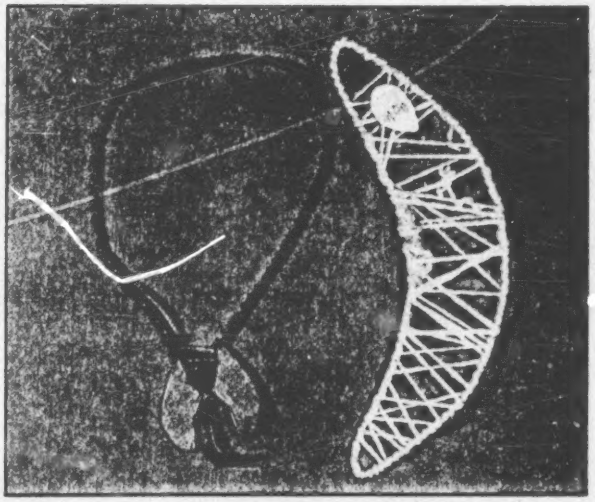
ARTFULLY EASY



Fall shadow box

COLLECT nuts, pods, weeds, and strawflowers to display in this shadow box. Cover the inside of a shallow box lid with colored paper. Then cover strips of cardboard that are as wide as the lid is deep with the same paper. Trim these pieces to make "frames" that will section off the box lid when glued in place. Cut pieces of colored or black paper slightly smaller than your sections and glue them in for backgrounds on which to arrange your fall findings.

JEREMY TYLER



Hanging fruit

BEND a coat hanger into the shape of an orange, banana, apple, or pear and wrap with appropriately colored rug yarn. Use white glue every now and then when wrapping yarn. Decorate the fruit sculpture with paper or felt leaves and seeds. Bend hook part of hanger to form a hanging loop. Group together to form a harvest mobile, or hang as separate decorations.

JOAN MARY MACEY

Designer costumes

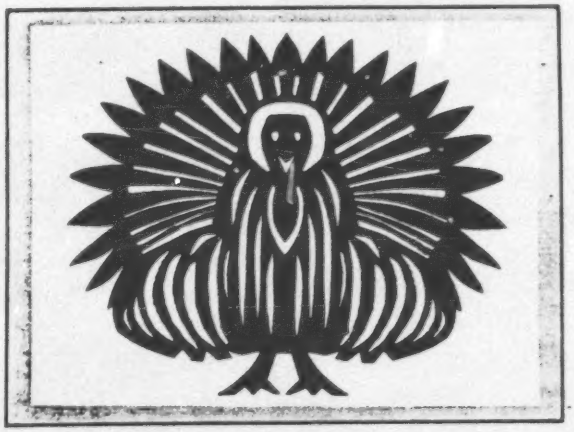
TO MAKE your designer costumes to wear or just for display purposes, first get paper bags from a dry cleaner or make your own bags from brown mural paper. If you make the bags, fold the paper from both sides to overlap at the center about four inches. Glue down this flap. Now fold back and glue down upper corners (at shoulders). Cut arm slits at sides. My second graders tried to think like clothes designers when they painted their costumes with wild colors and abstract designs. (They went to paint stations for each different color of paint.) We hung our costumes on hangers and added "designer" price tags.

IREENE ROBBINS

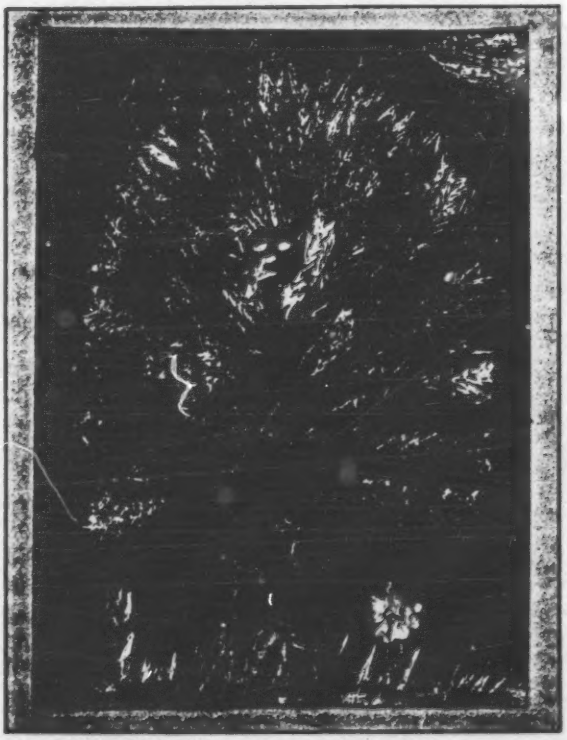
Gorgeous Gobblers

Cut-paper poultry is drawn with a white pencil on a center-folded piece of black paper. Cut along lines to remove outlined sections, making interior cuts first. **Midge Wren**

Scratchboard bird can be scratched out with a knitting needle. Firmly apply bright patches of crayon in areas where the turkey's feathers will go. Coat entire paper with black crayon. Scratch turkey design on top. **Midge Wren**



Cut-paper poultry



Scratchboard bird

Crayon resist turkey and tree are drawn with light shades of crayon on white paper. Leave some areas uncolored. Then brush the picture with a dark wash of thinned tempera or watercolor. Crayoned areas will not absorb the paint. **Tom Rose**

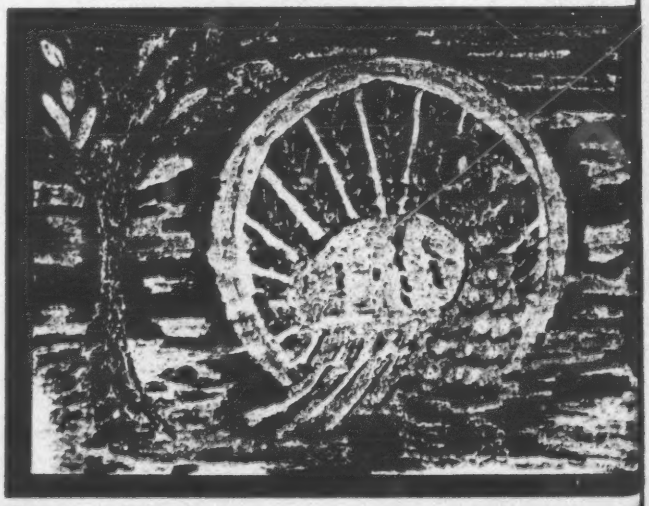
Fabric-feathered gobbler spreads a tail of eight shapely feathers cut from calico and checked sewing scraps. His velvet body, neck, and head are one-piece while his wing matches one tail feather. Craft glue holds pieces flat on a blue cardboard background. Put fringed-cloth grass on first. **Tom Rose**

Turk on tiptoe is made by pulling a coat hanger into a diamond shape, with hanger hook at top. Slip hanger into a leg cut from pantyhose (base of diamond in toe). Tie hose at hook and dip loose end of hose in red paint. Back diamond shape with a piece of 12" × 18" paper, fold top corners over for wings, and staple. Cut out long legs and paper feathers. **Carol Burt**

Tom-in-the-box is assembled from assorted caps and covers glued beneath paper circles. Tom's tail is a plastic lid, cut with scissors and colored with markers. Glue these parts inside a box cover. **Lee Hart**

Fan-tailed flock shows off colorful paper-folded tails. Glue fans to cardboard background (colored with markers and trimmed with fringed-cloth grass). Add cutout bodies, necks, and heads. **Lee Hart**

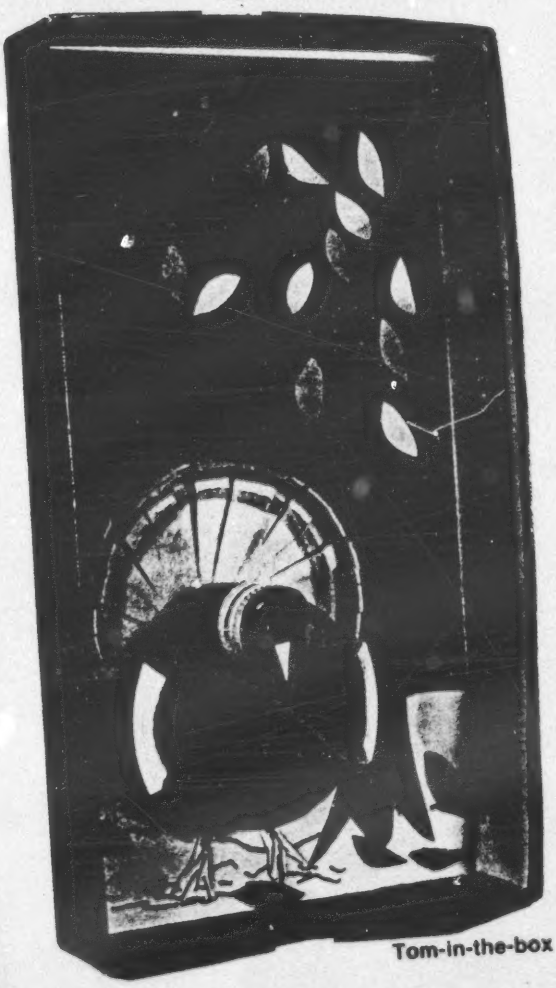
Tissue paper turkey is made by brushing thinned glue (equal parts glue and water) over precut shapes of tissue paper, arranged on plain paper. **Joan Lunich**



Crayon resist turkey

Fabric-feathered gobbler

Turk on tiptoe



Tom-in-the-box

Fan-tailed flock

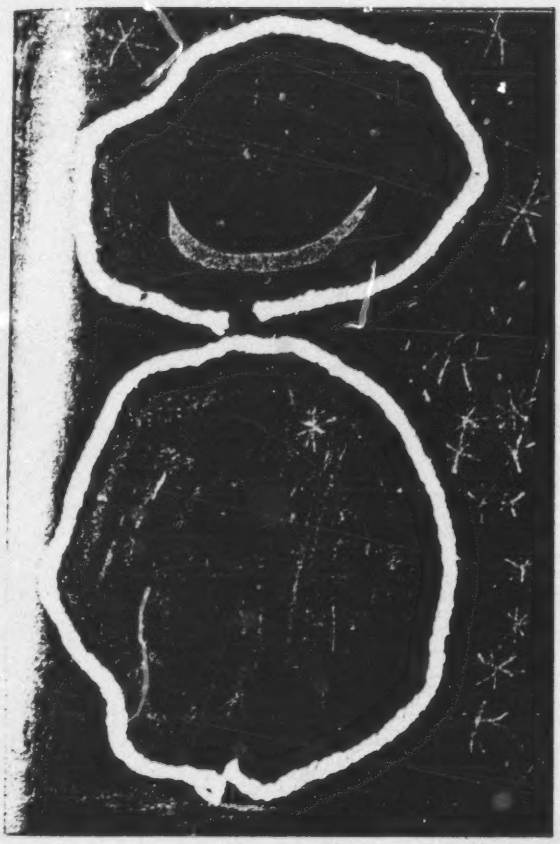
Tissue paper turkey

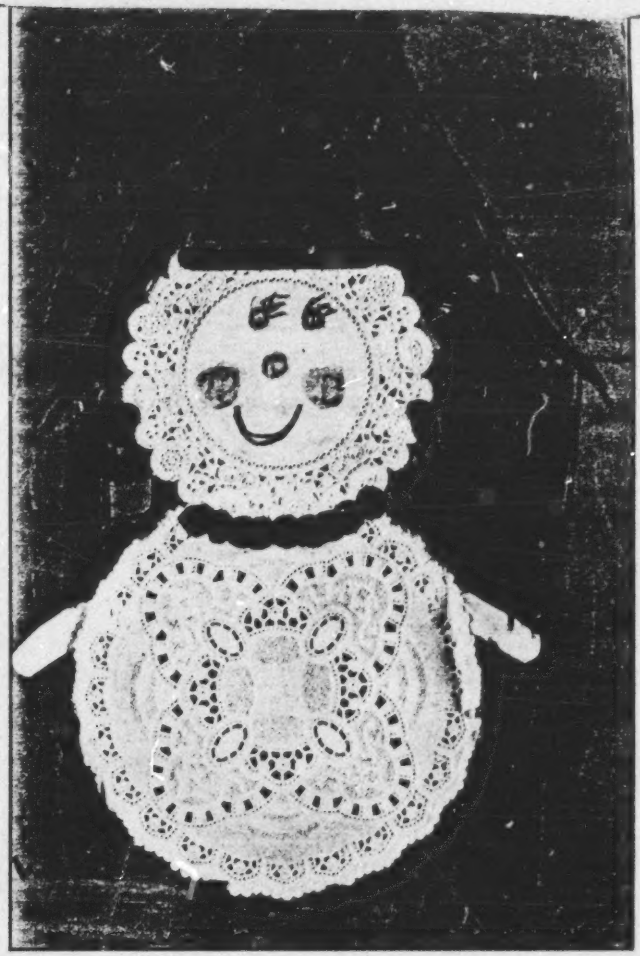
SNOW

IT'S TIME for the sleds, the skis, and the skates in these paintings of favorite winter pastimes. Set out large paper and clear colors of paint (each with its own brush and stir stick). Capture a wet-paint freshness of color by brushing completed *dry* tempera paintings with one coat of clear varnish. HELEN RANDALL EVENSEN

Instructor; v92, n5, January 1983

SNOW

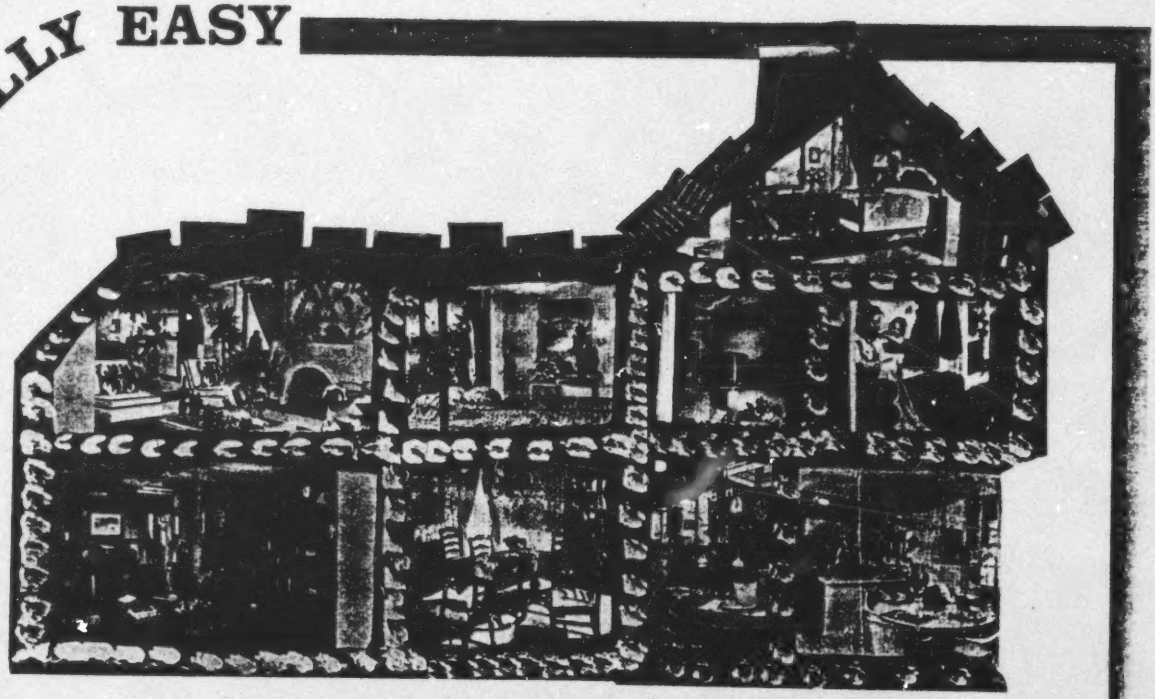




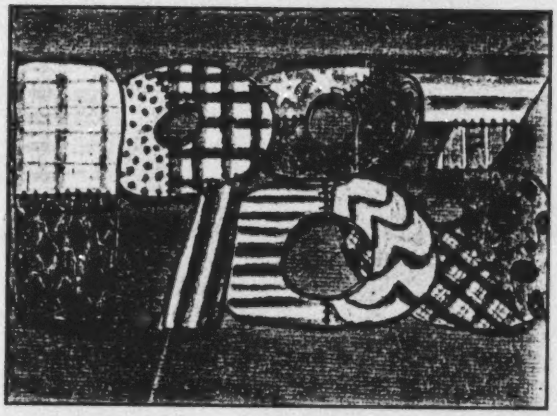
FIRST graders built these wonderful "snow persons" the easy way—without first wiggling into mittens, boots, hats, and scarves. They substituted plastic trays, doilies, paper plates, yarn, and cotton batting for that traditional cold, white building material. Scraps of colored paper became eyes, noses, mouths, buttons, and articles of clothing worn by fashion-conscious frosty folk. All-purpose white glue kept everything in place on colored backgrounds, while youngsters used crayon or chalk to add surrounding details. Toes stayed warm all during the happy creating of these lovable winter characters!

IREENE ROBBINS

ARTFULLY EASY



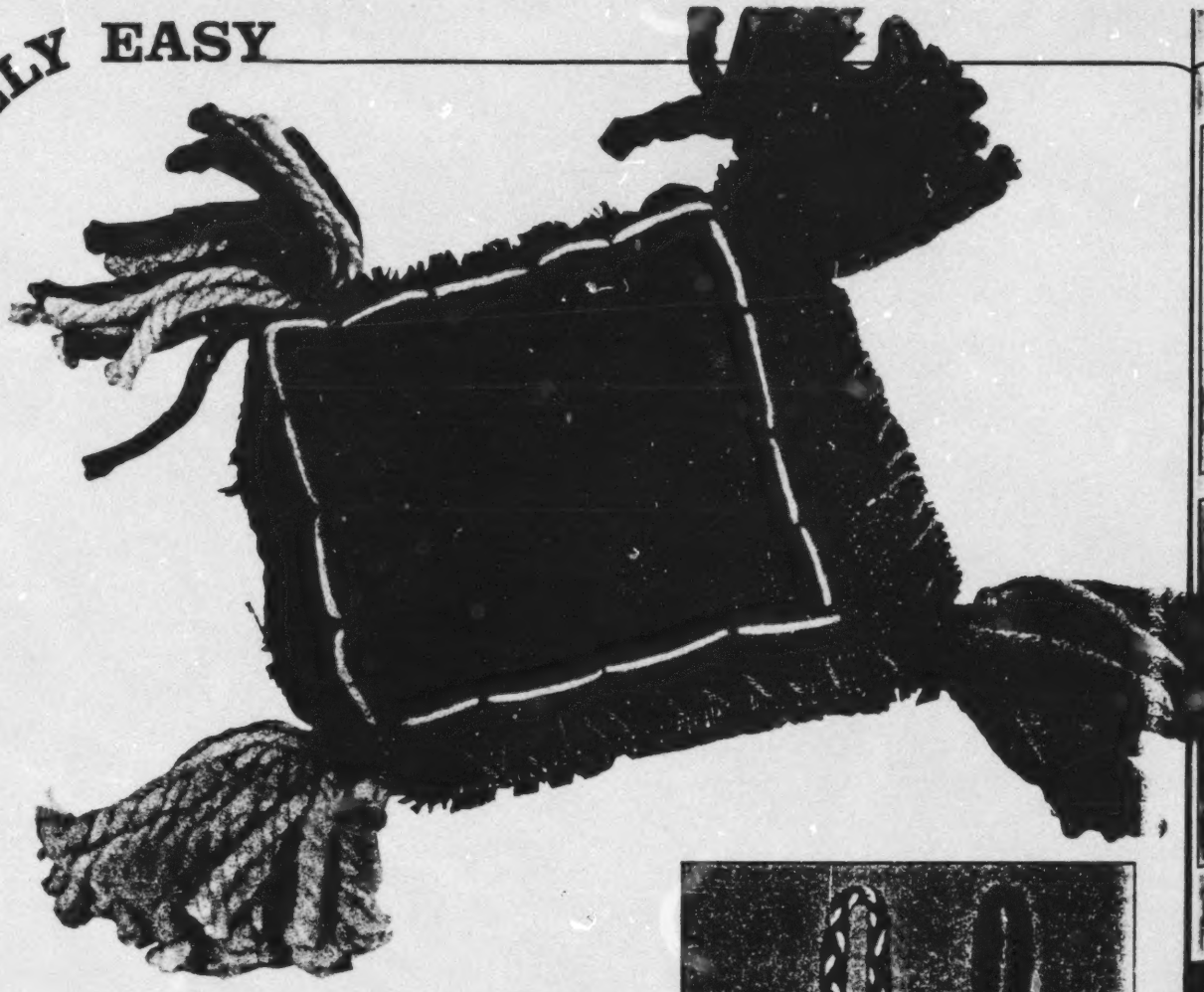
Mansions from magazines
HERE is a dream house come true—on paper. Cut a basic house shape from large paper. Add chimneys, porches, and other "extras" as you cut, or attach them to the house later. Next, select pictures of individual rooms from home-decorating magazines; cut and paste in furniture and decorative details. Touch up with markers.
HELEN KRATCHA THOMAS



The calico year
NAMES, animals, flowers—all are designed in calico this year. Here's how to imitate the look. Draw numerals (or letters or figures) in pencil, divide them into sections, and then outline sections with a black felt pen. Use colored markers or crayons to create a different pattern in sections. Add "stitches" with pen.
GAIL GIACOBAZZI

Fly-in breakfast
Trace outlines of feeding birds on paper, then fill their insides with white glue. Working from outside in, cover with yarn. Cut birds out and glue to cut-paper background. Glue real seeds to feeder.
AL MOTT

ARTFULLY EASY



BURLAP pillows can be small in size but big in design. Use simple embroidery stitches, pulled-thread work, or needle weaving on any loose-weave fabric like burlap. Rug yarn is inexpensive and available in a wide range of colors. To make tassels, use extra bulky yarn.

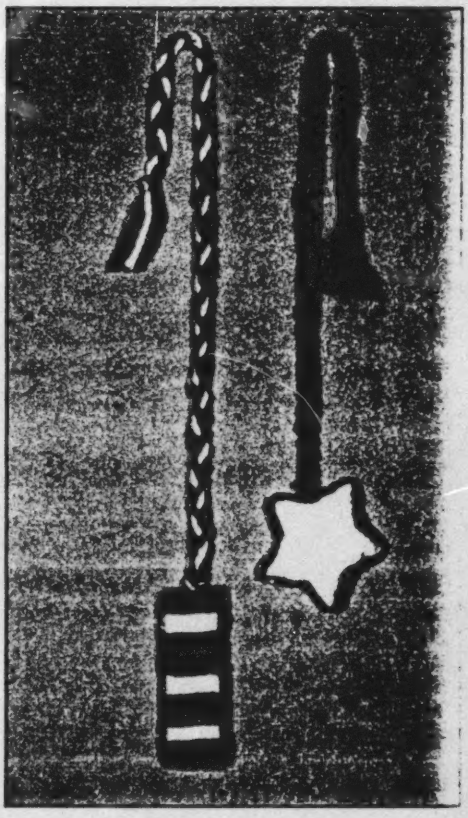
HELEN RANDALL EVENSEN

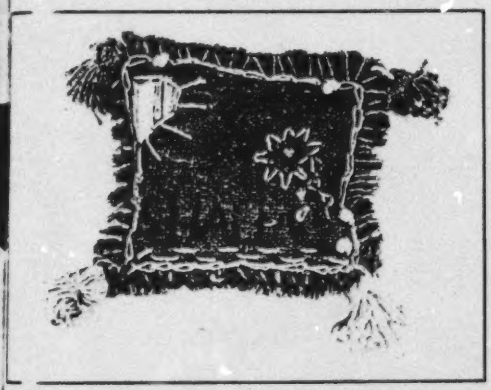
PATRIOTIC bookmarks are good February projects. Use red, white, and blue knitting yarn. First, cut star or other simple shape from heavy paper. Coat the front and back with white glue and cover with yarn. Braid or chain crochet a long "tail" to glue to shape.

ROLAND MOTT

SUPER skates can be designed for and by future hockey stars! Use real skates for reference. Cut out two skate shapes for each skate. Glue edges together and stuff center with scrap newspaper for a 3-D look. Use a paper punch to make holes for yarn "laces." Add bells and tassels.

SUE KREIBICH

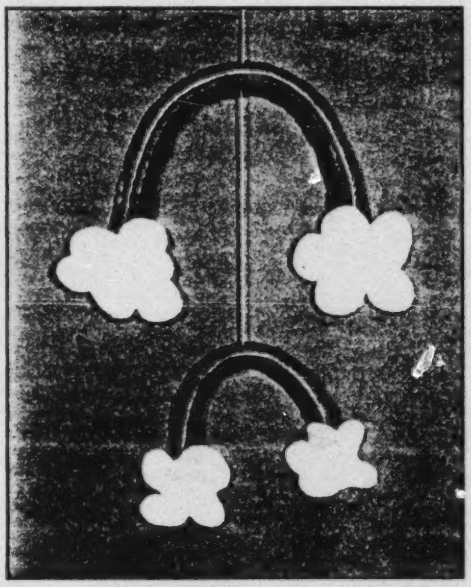


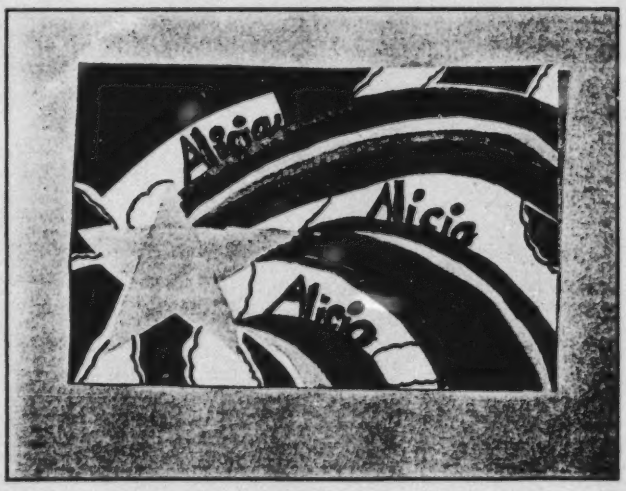


Everybody loves a rainbow

TO MAKE a rainbow mobile, squeeze white glue in arched shapes onto a piece of plastic wrap. Press rainbows of yarn lengths into the glue. Coat yarn with more glue and let dry. Peel from plastic. Add cutout felt clouds to edges of rainbows. String rainbows together with fine strong thread. **ROLAND MOTT**

INCORPORATE your name in a colorful rainbow-studded design. Think of other sky motifs to put in the design, such as stars, clouds, planets, rockets, or other aircraft. Use markers or paint. **SALLY DUNN**





LEPRECHAUNS, GNOMES, AND

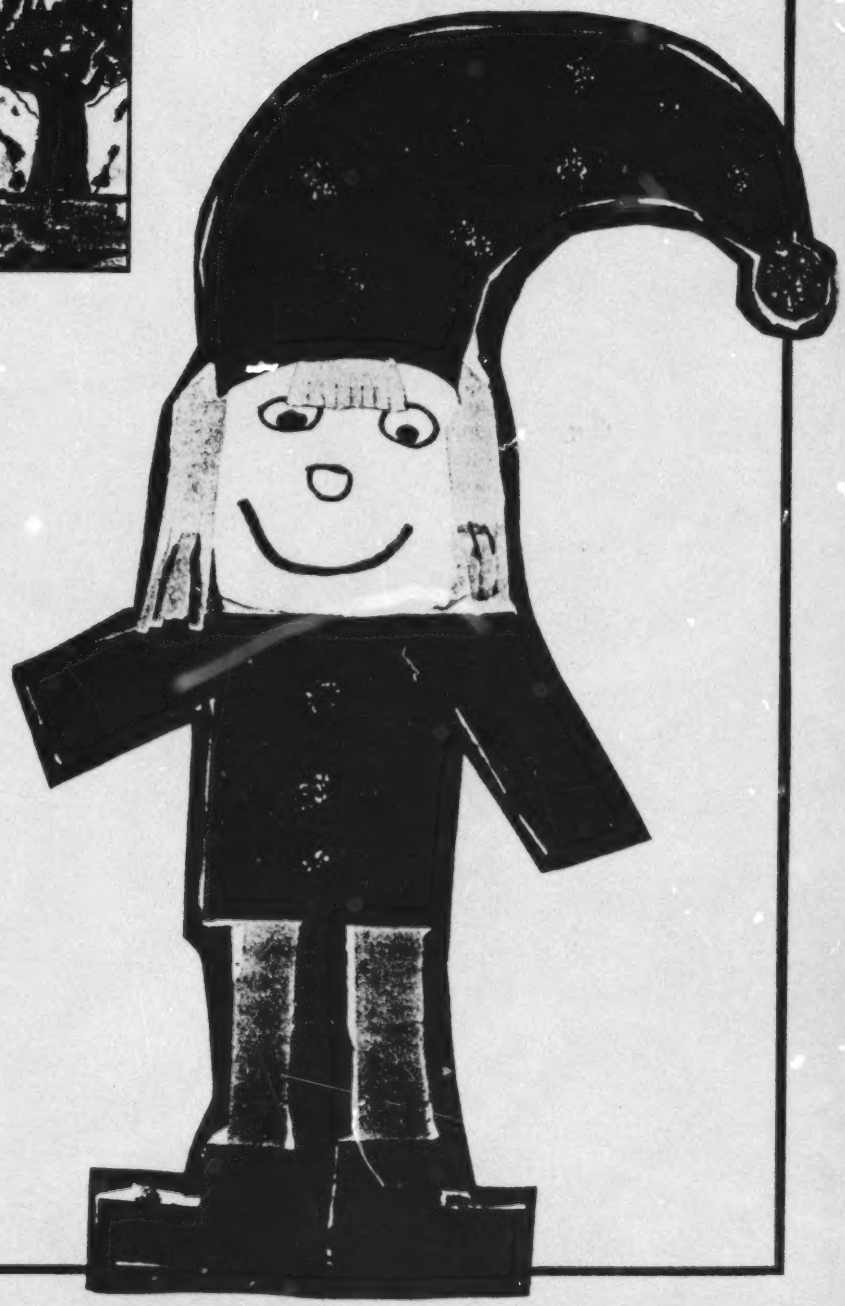
Greenbeard
WITH his Smurflike skin tone and dashingly different wardrobe, this inhabitant of fantasy land was cut from a scrap of foam rug-padding. Tempera paint and glitter were used to provide his colorful costume and sprightly expression. Black lines were drawn with a permanent marking pen. **JOAN LUNICH**

Traditional gnome
INSPIRED by Wil Huygen and Rien Poortvliet's popular best-seller *Gnomes*, this wee figure is painted with the kind of sensitivity that shows a youngster's sincere interest in, and response to, a subject. Here is an example of the proper use of pictorial source material as a reference, not merely something to copy. Figure was painted first, then cut out and mounted on the black cardboard. **JOAN LUNICH**

OTHER PRETEND BEINGS

Fantascenes
IN THE land of make-believe, all things are possible. Scenes should incorporate all manner of textures, materials, media, and techniques. Wadded tissue paper, raffia, glitter, bits of metallic paper, sequins, and colorful yarn all can be combined. Forget stereotypes. Notice how the child who made the picture above used large, royal blue clouds instead of fluffy, white ones. Encourage this sort of thinking, even when subject matter is realistic. Art should always include an element of fantasy. When a group of children look out the same window, each child should (and usually does) see a different scene. Make sure each painting done by one of these children is a reflection of that individual impression. **JOAN LUNICH**

Leprechaunette
COLORED paper, cut into simple shapes, was used to paste together this version of a very young leprechaun. Fringed hair and round spots of glitter added decorative accents. After the figure was pasted on paper, it was cut out in one large shape, leaving enough background color to provide a strong contrasting outline. **JOAN LUNICH**



ARTFULLY EASY

Plate-o'-gold

MAKE your own commemorative plate in honor of Saint Patrick's Day. Use a paper-plate base. Glue on a yarn rainbow, pots of gold, a cut-paper version of that all-important little green man, and an abundant crop of shamrocks. Tape a yarn loop to back of plate for hanging. These decorated plates make wonderful gifts for enthusiastically Irish friends.

ANN McCABE

Leaping lunch bag

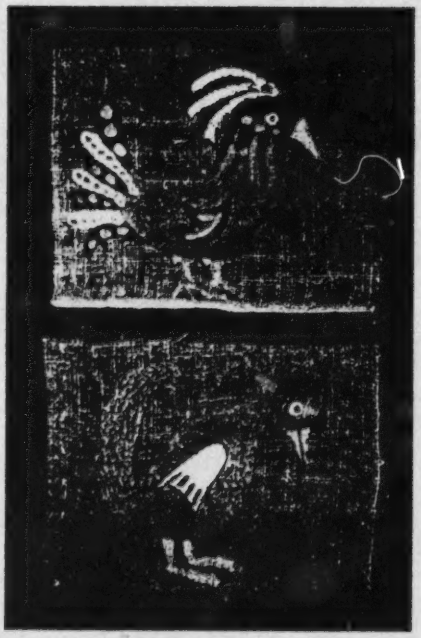
THIS frog is super simple to make. Trim several inches off the top of a small bag and stuff with crumpled newspaper. Fold top down and glue. Cut a cardboard rectangle with protruding feet to fit the bottom of bag. Glue in place. Slice a small plastic foam ball in half and attach for eyeballs. Paint as shown.

ESTHER CURRY

Hanger weaving

A GOOD loom for weaving in the upper elementary grades is a hanger bent into a new form. (See drawing.) The warp is strung across the indentations of the hanger and tied securely. Weaving can be done easily by hand. Various yarns and patterns may be used. Tassels, fringes, or bows make interesting accents. When finished, the hanger hook makes displaying the completed work easy.

JOAN MARY MACEY



Spring Spirit

THIS spring choose art projects that fit the exhilarated moods of your spring-smitten students.

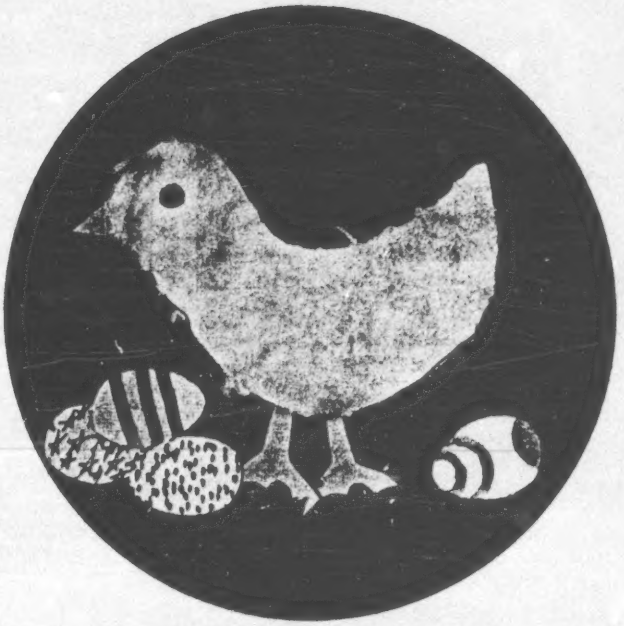
Imagination takes wing when **birds** are painted with brilliant colors on burlap backgrounds. Use creamy tempera or acrylic paint. Tack or tape burlap to work surface. **Justin Hubbard**

A **pot full of blooms** will brighten any room. Choose a favorite flower or invent one. Cut ovals, circles, and semicircles freehand. Combine by stacking, overlapping, and/or pinching together. Glue in place and add details. **Helen Randall Evensen**

Make a **Happy Day Hat** to celebrate any happy day! Cut a half-circle from 12" by 18" paper, shape into a cone. Make decorations zippy and zany, sparkly and silly. Curl, fold, twist, and pleat different parts. How about a Happy Day Parade?! **H. R. Evensen**

Put this **box bird** on suspension! Cover different-sized cereal, detergent, and gift boxes with paper. Cut some in half diagonally. Glue them together, add detail, and hang from ceiling. **J. Daly**

Egg Foo—Fun

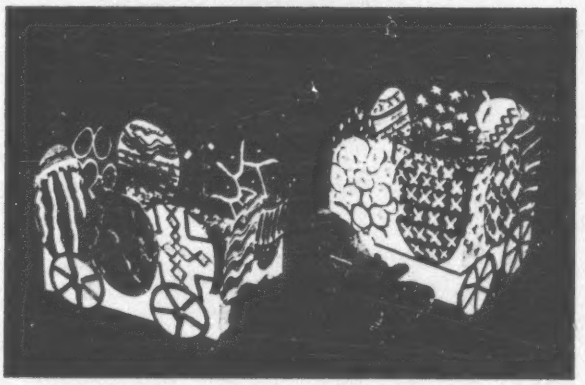


1. Paper

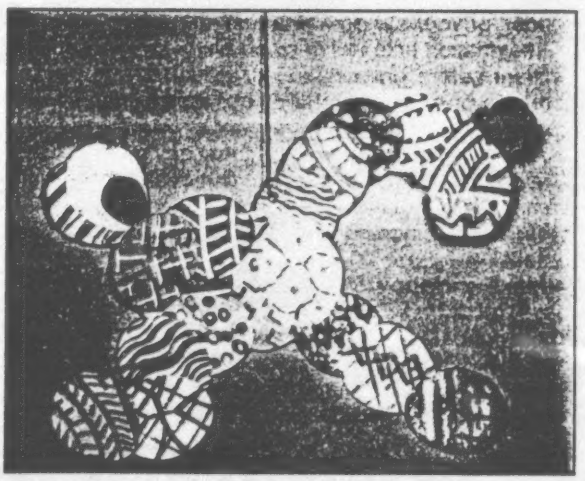
THE graceful oval shapes of eggs have caused them to be favored objects for decoration by hordes of folk artists. Through the years eggs have been dyed, painted, découpaged, yarn-wrapped, beaded, and even jeweled. While working with real blown or hard-boiled eggs is certainly possible with grade school children, it is understandable if busy teachers often "chicken out" in favor of simple cardboard versions. Even the use of patterns is permissible in this case. Keeping the ovals even and alike frees children to use their ingenuity in the ways they choose to decorate and combine the forms.

1. Cover **paper chicken** with snips of bulky yarn and place above marker-decorated eggs nestled in cellophane grass on a painted paper plate. You will have a seasonal plaque rich in textural interest.
2. **Little wagons** can hold hard-boiled eggs or candy surprises. They are made from small gift boxes covered with overlapping eggs which are painted on both sides with designs. One box is upside down with wheels cut from its sides. The other is open-side-up with separate wheels attached with brass fasteners.
3. **Egg-ceptional animal** has a shape formed by gluing down overlapping eggs on a plain paper background, then cutting around outline. Tail and ears are tiny eggs. Hang from yarn fastened to the end of a plastic straw. Use as a simple puppet.
4. **Egg clown** is a combination of painted and plain eggs in different sizes. Brass fasteners hold it together. Holes for hair are made with paper punch.
5. **Calico-covered eggs** extend to conceal sides of small box converted into a charming basket by adding a calico-covered cardboard handle held by fasteners.
6. Four **giant-size eggs** are overlapped in an X formation, glued together at the overlapping ends, then folded up to form basket. Strengthen sides with a narrow band of colored paper. Add paper or yarn handle.
7. **Super-big fabric egg** is cut from small-print material, padded lightly with polyester fiber as it is glued at the very edges to background. Decorate with strips of fabric or other trim.

Jacqueline Koury

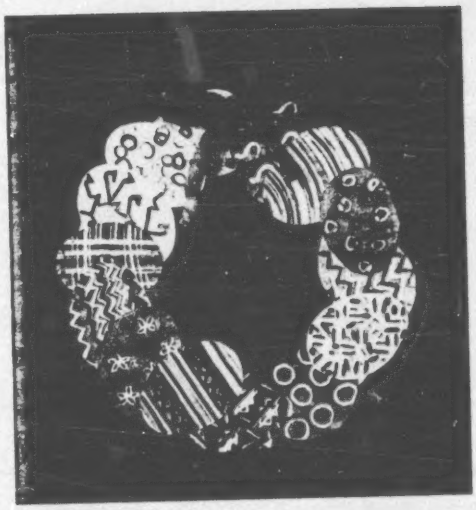


2. Little wagons



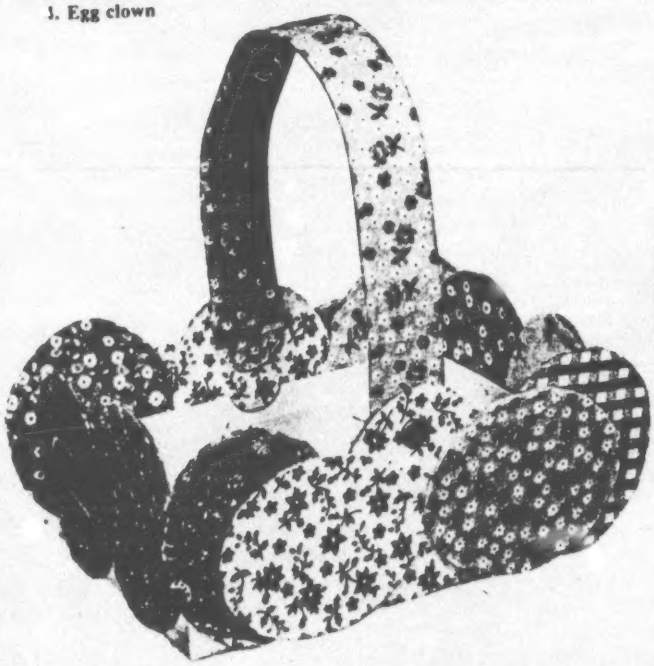
3. Egg-ceptional animal

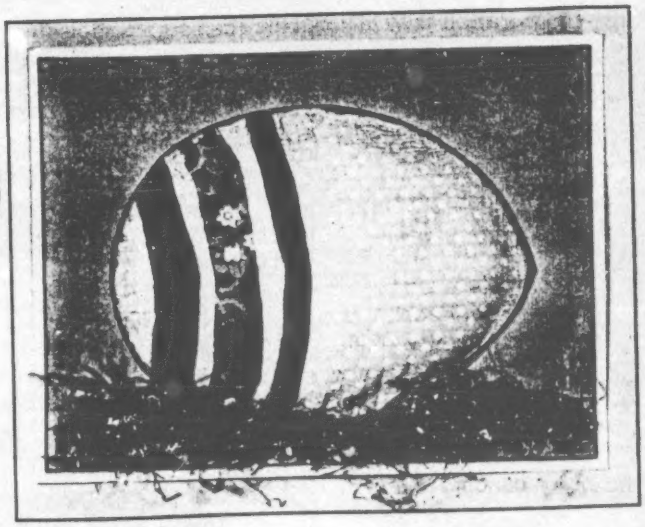
1. Egg clown



5. Calico-covered eggs

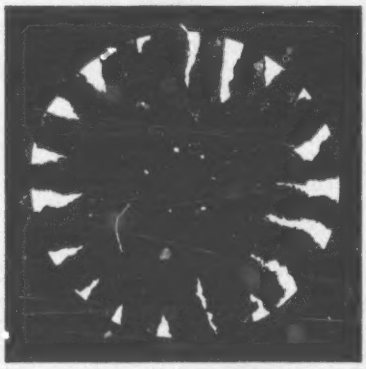
6. Giant-size eggs (see lower left also)





7. Super-big fabric egg

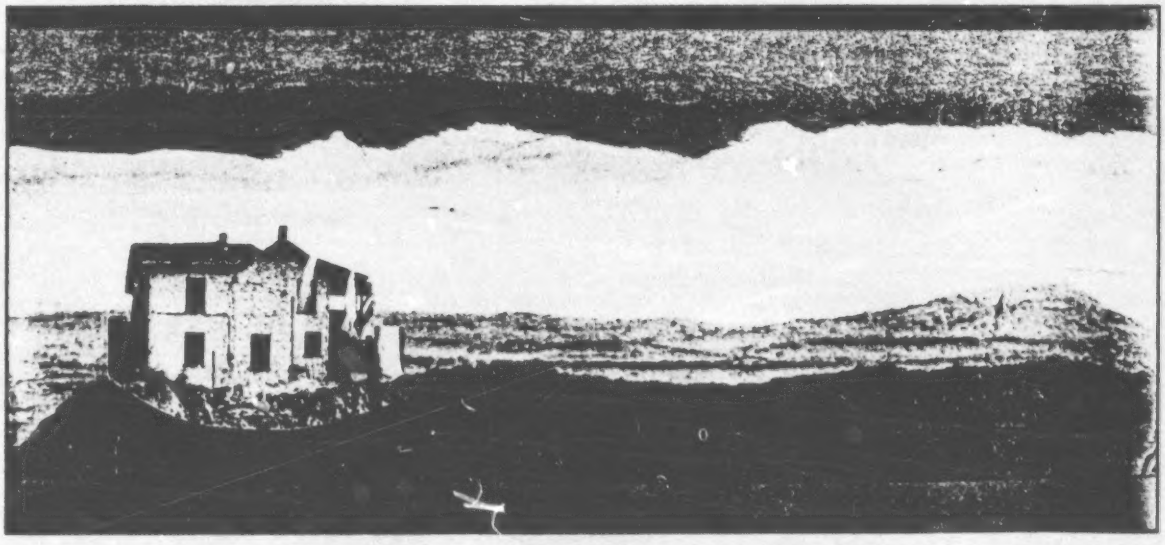
THE GREAT TISSUE PAPER TAKEOVER

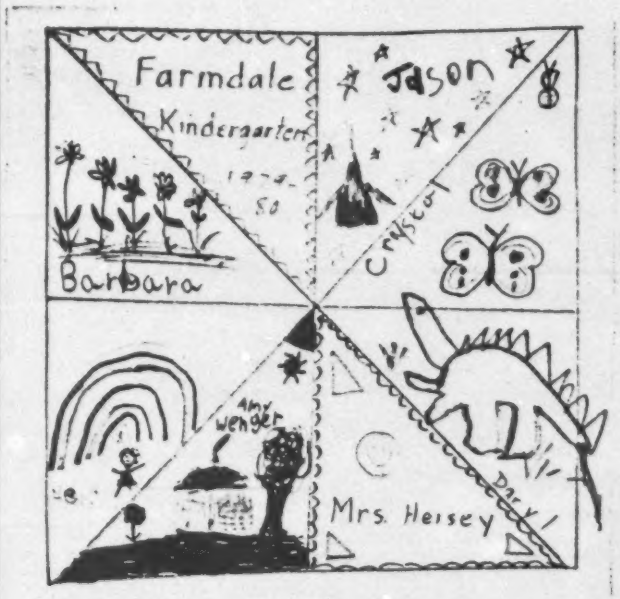


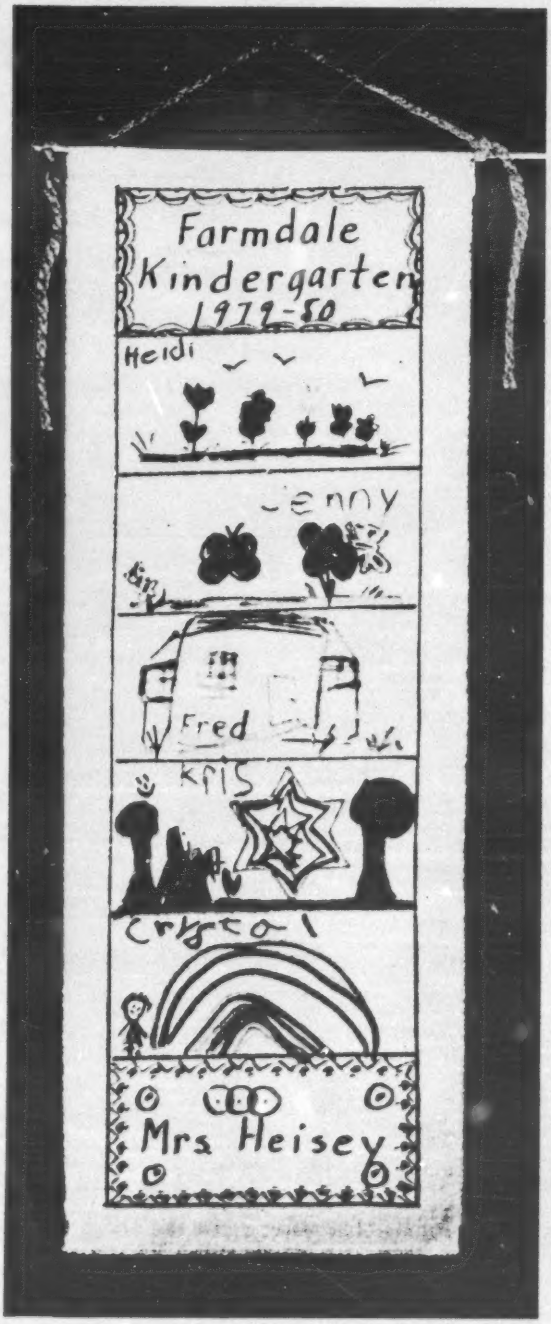
TISSUE paper today is far removed from that fragile, pale stuff of years ago. Wonderful madras stripes and brilliant colors furnish an unlimited "palette." To "paint" with tissue, use a mixture of equal parts of any clear-drying, white glue and water. Tear or cut a selection of tissue pieces before beginning. Vary size of these, but keep them fairly small and irregularly shaped. Apply pieces to desired background by holding in place with one hand and brushing glue mixture from the center of the piece outward. Overlap pieces to achieve blending and depth of color.

Glue pieces to a permanent background on a slick surface like a plastic foam meat tray or aluminum pie pan. Peel translucent shape from tray or pan when dry. Trim if necessary and add pipe cleaner (butterfly) or other detail. On white backgrounds colors will seem to glow (flower still life). Drops of full-strength glue dry clear and add texture (center of large red flower). Superimposing a magazine cutout on a tissue-collage background is another effective technique (scene with house).

EVELYN JENSEN







HUNG UP ON CLASS MEMORIES

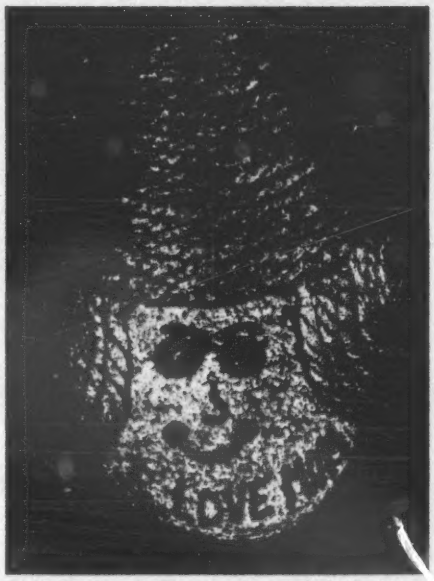
AT THE END of the school year, many children like to pass around autograph books or yearbooks in which friends write personal remembrances along with their names. Here's another way they can preserve memories of classmates.

Give each child a piece of unbleached muslin large enough to divide into several sections. Have kids divide the piece, using a ruler and marking pen, into rectangles, triangles, or other shapes. One or more of the shapes should have the name of the school, teacher, grade, and year. Kids then can pass the muslin to friends who draw pictures (of something uniquely special to them), using liquid crayons or marking pens, and print their names underneath.

When completed, fold the top ½" over to the back; stitch, staple, or tape it down; then stick a ⅛" or ¼" dowel through this pocket. Suspend the hanging with a piece of yarn that's attached to both ends of the dowel; let excess yarn dangle at the sides.

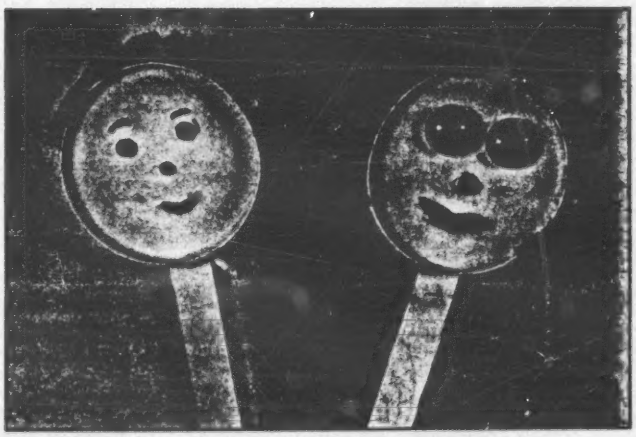
ESTHER HEISEY

ARTFULLY EASY

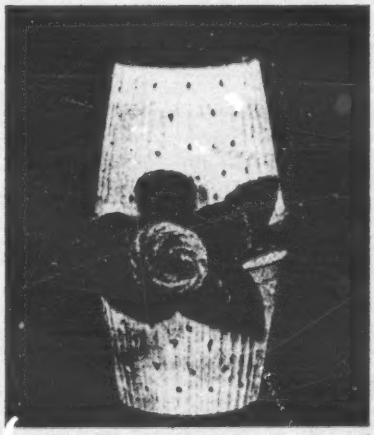


This **Mother's Day paperweight** is made with large, smooth stones. Draw eyes, nose, mouth, and a short message on stone with a fine-line marker. Put glue on the rest of the stone and wrap it with colorful yarn. Finally, glue felt or flannel to bottom to protect furniture from scratches. **GUY LANGE**

Draw this **exotic toucan** on a piece of scrap cardboard. Outline the different body parts with black yarn. Put glue in each part, then fill in with shredded excelsior. When glue has dried, brush thick tempera, in desired colors, over the excelsior. Glue on colored yarn for the eye and claws. Cut out completed bird and glue to a colored cardboard background. **CAROL SPENCER**



Paper-cup stick puppets can be made from the bottoms of cups, cut ½" from the bottom. Glue on buttons or beads for the eyes and nose, yarn for hair, and felt for mouth. Cut slits through the back rims, insert Popsicle sticks through slits, and glue to hold firm. **DORIS BREIHOLZ**



Th's **closet freshener** is made from two clean sour cream cups. Fill bottom cup with potpourri or cloves, then glue on the other cup. Poke holes in both with a large needle. Glue yarn (inside felt) around middle. **ANNA LEE**